



Attorney Docket: 622/43633C3
PATENT

6-14-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: RUDOLF WAGNER ET AL.
Serial No.: 09/766,835 Group Art Unit: 1762
Filed: JANUARY 23, 2001 Examiner:
Title: PROCESS FOR HANDLING WORKPIECES AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following amendments are submitted preliminarily to an examination on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 28-44.

Please add the following new claims 44-99:

3, ~~44~~ (New) A method for manufacturing surface treated workpieces comprising the steps of:

loading said workpieces into a treatment facility comprising at least two stations operating each on workpiece batches grouped as respective station batches and being different with respect to number of workpieces;

transporting said workpieces to and from said at least two stations grouped as a transport batch and

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